

As the Starbucks CEO said recently: "If there is any lesson to be learned over the last year, it's that your voice and your vote matter more than ever. We are all obligated to ensure our elected officials hear from us individually and collectively."

Here is my message: I am not handing over my money to people or companies that take that money and invest in hate, invest in bigotry, invest in discrimination; that destroy the image and the reputation of the United States of America. I am not putting one dollar into those companies. I am not going to use my money to support that.

I guess I am going to find myself a Starbucks and buy whatever they have there that is not coffee, Mr. Speaker.

#### RESOLVING THE MYSTERY OF RAOUL WALLENBERG'S FATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, in 1944, President Roosevelt created the War Refugee Board in order to undertake efforts to rescue Jews from the Nazis and the atrocities of the Holocaust.

That same year, a young Swedish diplomat accepted an appointment to travel to Hungary on a humanitarian mission, in large part sponsored by our War Refugee Board, to help protect Hungary's Jewish community. This young diplomat, Raoul Wallenberg, risked his life to save tens of thousands of Jews, if not more, from almost certain death in Nazi concentration camps.

For his remarkable courage and humanitarian spirit, Wallenberg had been recognized and memorialized across the globe. In 1963, Yad Vashem recognized him as a righteous man among nations. In 1981, Raoul Wallenberg became the second person to be bestowed honorary United States citizenship. In 1995, Congress unveiled a bronze bust dedicated to Wallenberg here in the Capitol, and today, it can be found, appropriately, in Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center. Just 3 years ago, Mr. Speaker, Congress awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to Raoul Wallenberg—the highest civilian honor that can be bestowed by Congress.

Yet, for all of these memorials and all of these tributes since Raoul Wallenberg was last seen as a free man on January 17, 1945, his true fate remains a mystery. For 72 years now, the truth has eluded us and, worse, Raoul's family, loved ones, and the countless that he saved have been unable to receive the closure they deserve.

For many years, my good friend and colleague, the late Tom Lantos took up the mantle of resolving the Wallenberg mystery. Not only was Tom the only Holocaust survivor to ever serve in Congress, but he managed to escape the horrors of the Holocaust, thanks to the actions of Raoul Wallenberg.

It was Tom who introduced the legislation that became law bestowing honorary citizenship to Wallenberg; Tom who kept the focus on this case, never allowing it to be cast aside. It has been 72 years, Mr. Speaker, yet we still do not have the answers. It is now our turn to be asking the unanswered questions. We have a responsibility, indeed an obligation, to do the right thing.

It was the United States Government and the War Refugee Board, along with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee that largely sponsored Wallenberg's work in Hungary. We named him an honorary citizen and we bestowed upon him the highest honors. Yet, we have not done what needs to be done to resolve the questions surrounding his disappearance.

When proclaiming Raoul Wallenberg a United States citizen, President Reagan asked: How can we comprehend the moral worth of a man who saved tens and tens of thousands of lives, including those of Congressman and Mrs. Lantos?

We cannot possibly comprehend Raoul Wallenberg's moral worth, Mr. Speaker, but we must ask ourselves what our moral worth is if we don't do everything in our power to end this 72-year search for answers.

I have presented a bipartisan resolution, H. Res. 58, which seeks to raise awareness of the Wallenberg case. This resolution builds upon the tireless efforts of so many: Wallenberg's parents; his half-brother, Guy; Guy's daughters, Marie and Louise; and Raoul's half-sister, Nina.

It was Nina, Mr. Speaker, who served as guest of honor at the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony in this building in 2012. This resolution builds upon the tremendous research by the scholars and volunteers over the years by raising outstanding questions that linger to this very day.

The resolution also urges the administration, from the President on down, to raise the case of Wallenberg to their Russian counterparts, and it calls upon Russia to open its archives so that we can finally get some answers.

I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution. Remember, H. Res. 58. I urge all of us to show just a little bit of courage—the same courage that Raoul Wallenberg exemplified—by taking action. It is our duty to remember Raoul's heroic actions, his sacrifice, and to build upon his legacy, Mr. Speaker. It is also our duty to bring an end to this tragic injustice and to finally resolve the mystery of the fate of Raoul Wallenberg.

#### DENOUNCING HOLOCAUST DENIERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to denounce this sad reality: the depraved beliefs of Hol-

ocaust deniers have somehow crawled into our national conversation. What is worse is that it is occurring at a time when our government has decided to turn its back on refugees fleeing violence and oppression.

What is deeply concerning is that all of this is emanating from the White House, clearly directed by President Trump's top political strategist, Stephen Bannon. Mr. Bannon was the force behind Breitbart News, an alt-right outlet that traffics anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, and White nationalism.

When President Trump picked Mr. Bannon as a chief strategist, countless groups condemned it. The Anti-Defamation League's Jonathan Greenblatt warned us that Bannon's views were "hostile to core American values." That concern was made crystal clear by the statement President Trump issued on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, about 10 days ago.

The statement inexplicably left out the defining aspect of the Holocaust—the systemic murder of 6 million Jewish people. It is crucial to understand why this global day of remembrance even takes place. The United Nations created this calendar event in 2005, partly because fewer Holocaust survivors with personal accounts of the horror they experienced were still alive.

Another reason was to combat the smoldering bigotry that still attempts to minimize the death of millions of murdered European Jews. The failure to mention this basic fact on such a day—as all past administrations have—is unbelievable and unacceptable.

What is bone-chilling in its insensitivity and callous indifference is that, when questioned about the omission, President Trump's White House spokeswoman acknowledged it was intentional. His spokeswoman said in defense of leaving out any reference to Jews or anti-Semitism in the statement: "Despite what the media reports, we are an incredibly inclusive group and we took into account all of those who suffered."

Compounding this refusal to acknowledge that Jews were the main target of the Holocaust, the White House spokesman called critics of the statement "pathetic" and "nit-picking." He tried to gloss over it by suggesting a Jew helped prepare the statement.

The fact is, undeniably, that the Holocaust was about the Jews. Hitler established what he called the final solution, a state-sponsored policy to exterminate the Jews and rid them from the planet.

Omitting any reference to Jews as the primary driver of Hitler's and the Nazi's intentions, is nothing short of sanctioning Holocaust denial by blurring the hatred that was its driving force. Yes, it is vital to recognize that others were systematically targeted for extermination, but the number of Jews murdered and the great lengths taken to identify, capture, and annihilate

them are unprecedented in human history.

This is why we mourn those who lost their lives in one of history's darkest moments. This is why we recommit ourselves to upholding the principle of "never again." This is why we have an International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

A cruel irony is that on this very same day, Trump released his punishing Muslim ban that Bannon reportedly crafted to stop refugees from coming into our country. The executive order bans travel to the United States from seven predominantly Islam countries, though we are told that this is not a Muslim ban.

The bumbling rollout of the order and unmitigated chaos it caused, has drawn scorn from across the political spectrum, and from allies across the world. Fortunately, our legal system has acted as a check on this ban so far. But it is the Islamophobia at the root of it, which is what Mr. Bannon and the alt-right crowd have long promoted. The Jewish community was quick to see the disturbing historic similarities.

In May of 1939, the German liner *St. Louis* sailed to Cuba with 937 passengers, most of them Jews fleeing the Third Reich. The bulk of the Jewish passengers had applied for U.S. visas and planned to stay in Cuba, but anti-Semitic protests prevented them from even disembarking there. After intense negotiations to try to have Cuba accept the refugees failed, the United States turned the ship away, and the passengers were forced to return to Europe. One-third of them were ultimately exterminated by the Nazis.

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It was a shameful chapter in our history. Those harsh forces are still at work around the globe, and it is those very same aspirational principles that drive so many immigrants to come to this great Nation.

The idea that someone such as Mr. Bannon has actively worked to oppose these values in the past sickens me. The idea that Mr. Bannon now sits on the principals committee on the National Security Council is also deeply troubling. The prospect that his alt-right views could politicize the decisions that put American troops and lives at risk is inexplicable and inexcusable.

But make no mistake, this outrage lies at the feet of Donald Trump, who allowed this oblique denial to go out in his name.

So, Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to say that I will not be silent. In the face of cruelty and suffering, I will stand with those who refuse to be bystanders. I will join my voice with those who courageously ask questions instead of thoughtlessly taking orders.

Mr. Speaker, the controversy over the Holocaust statement was never just a quibble about words. It is about the memory of 6 million murdered Jews. It is about making sure that no

one, especially in the United States of America, denies that its primary purpose was, at its core, about Jews. And if we are to make certain that this never happens again, we cannot erase them from history or allow history to repeat itself. Never again.

#### 1982 VOTE MACHINE RIGGING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BROOKS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, fake news by the leftist Washington Post has gotten even more shrill and more irrational since Donald Trump became President.

At a Republican meeting in Philadelphia, a felony was committed by the illegal tape recording and subsequent publication of my private conversation with Vice President MIKE PENCE about voter fraud. The Washington Post reported that I said: "In my first election in 1982, Democrats rigged about 25 percent of the voting machines to vote for everyone on the ballot but me. That's 11 of 45 machines."

Rather than reporting about my being a voter fraud victim or about something else I said that a Federal court decree opened the floodgates for illegal alien voting, The Washington Post did a partisan fake news hit piece and gave me, the voter fraud victim, a four-Pinocchio score on truthfulness.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly wear The Washington Post four Pinocchios like a red badge of courage. I know what the truth was. I was there. Here are the facts:

In 1982, I was a Republican candidate in Alabama House District 18 at a time when Democrats dominated Alabama. All 31 of Alabama's statewide elected officials were Democrats. Democrats held every partisan elected office in Alabama's Tennessee Valley.

On election day, angry voters called me nonstop about rigged voting machines that would not allow them to vote for MO BROOKS. As a former assistant district attorney, I knew how to conduct an investigation. I talked with witnesses. I examined documents. Another attorney did the same. When the polls opened, 11 of 45 voting machines registered votes for all candidates on the ballot except for MO BROOKS. Not once was my opponent or any other candidate blocked on any machine.

My hometown is the birthplace of America's space program and many of America's high-tech weaponry. We know math. Mathematically, if there were 26 candidates on the ballot, which there were, and only one name is blocked out, the odds of a particular candidate being blocked out are 1 in 26. If there are two machines that each has one name blocked out, the odds of MO BROOKS being blocked out both times is 1 in 26 squared, or 1 chance out of 676 chances.

If there are 11 machines that each have one name blocked out, the odds that all 11 blocked names are MO

BROOKS are 1 chance in 26 to the 11th power. Hence, the odds that my name, the only name, was accidentally blocked out on 11 different machines, as The Washington Post would have you believe, are 1 chance out of 26 to the 11th power, or 1 chance out of 3.6 quadrillion chances.

Conversely, the probability that these 11 voting machines were rigged is 3.6 quadrillion to 1. The evidence is overwhelming. There was no accident. The voting machines were rigged.

Who rigged the voting machines?

In 1982, every single elected official with control over voting machines was a Democrat. In 1982, I was campaigning in a hotly contested race to be the only Republican legislator in the northern third of Alabama. I was the breach in the Democratic Party dam.

Earlier in the campaign, the Democratic Alabama secretary of State, who is now serving hard time in Federal prison, notified me that I would be removed from the ballot because my paperwork was allegedly not in their files. Fortunately, I had date-stamped copies of the documents I filed, thereby forcing the Democrat secretary of State to back off.

The Democrats had motive. The Democrats had opportunity. The Democrats had control. It is fake news for The Washington Post to cover up Democratic sins by suggesting otherwise.

Mr. Speaker, The Washington Post's fake news hit piece begs a broader question: Why would The Washington Post even bother to write about an election they know nothing about that happened over 34 years ago? The answer: partisan paranoia. The Democrats and their media allies like The Washington Post are so paranoid and angry about President Trump's election that they are shrilly lying and lashing out against anybody, anytime, regardless of truth.

The Washington Post: fake news, sad.

As a footnote, despite the voter fraud, I won the election with 57 percent of the vote. In a court-ordered election just 1 year later, voters still angry about Democratic voter fraud re-elected me with 82 percent of the vote. That is 25 percentage points higher than when the Democrats rigged the voting machines.

#### COUNTRY BEFORE PARTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my serious concern regarding President Trump's respect for, and adherence to, the United States Constitution. In short, something is not right at the White House.

His behavior suggests that he has little regard for the judicial branch of our government. If the President has purposely acted in contradiction of a court's order, he would be in violation of the Constitution, and this Congress would be required to act.